



**PATENT APPLICATION**

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re the Application of

Tetsuo ASADA

Group Art Unit: 3653

Application No.: 10/695,827

Examiner: T. MORRISON

Filed: October 30, 2003

Docket No.: 117637

For: SHEET FEED DEVICE FOR FEEDING CUT SHEETS WHILE INTERPOSING  
SHORTENED INTERVAL BETWEEN SUCCESSIVELY FED TWO SHEETS

**RESPONSE TO ELECTION OF SPECIES REQUIREMENT**

Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

In reply to the Election of Species Requirement mailed December 30, 2004 and the attached Petition to Waive the Government Fee for the Four Month Extension of Time, Applicant provisionally elects Species II, Figure 6. Applicant submits that claims 1-7, 9, 12-18 and 20 read on elected Species II. It is submitted at least claims 1 and 12 are generic to all species. This election is made with traverse.

It is respectfully submitted that the subject matter of all species is sufficiently related that a thorough search for the subject matter of the elected species would encompass a search for the subject matter of the remaining species. Thus, it is respectfully submitted that the search and examination of the entire application could be made without serious burden. See MPEP §803 in which is stated that "If the search and examination of an entire application can be made without serious burden, the Examiner must examine it on the merits, even though it includes claims to distinct or independent inventions." (Emphasis added). It is respectfully

submitted that this policy should apply in the present application to avoid unnecessary delay and expense to Applicant and duplicative examination by the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office.

In view of the foregoing, it is respectfully submitted that claims 1-22 can be examined without undue burden on the Examiner. Accordingly, it is respectfully requested that the Election of Species Requirement be withdrawn.

Respectfully submitted,



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Registration No. 27,075

Scott M. Schulte  
Registration No. 44,325

JAO:SMS/sxb

Attachment:

Petition Under 37 C.F.R. §1.181 to Waive the  
Government Fee for the Four-Month Extension of Time

Date: May 27, 2005

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**Alexandria, Virginia 22320**  
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